

To the offices of Governor, Lt. Governor, and Insurance Commissioner,

We have been concerned over the issue of medical malpractice insurance. According to an article in the New Albany Gazette, the Creekmore Clinic may have to shut down after their current malpractice insurance expires, due to the fact that no insurance company will sell them malpractice insurance because they are located in Mississippi. This, in turn, will seriously affect the Baptist Memorial Hospital-Union County, decreasing the overall state of health care in this portion of North Mississippi. Since these insurance companies deal with health practitioners state-wide, this will probably not be an isolated case. This will cause badly-needed health practitioners to leave the state, something we can ill afford.

There is legislation that has been presented to the legislature that will allow health care professionals to purchase affordable malpractice insurance and continue to serve their patients in the smaller, more rural communities of this state. We believe this legislation is known to you. What we ask is that this legislation be considered by the full legislature and, if passed, be signed into law by you. A special session of the legislature, while costly, may be what is necessary to keep health care available and affordable in Mississippi. We aren't asking for special privilege or special consideration. We just want to keep our doctors and nurses here. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Richard & Regina Watts
Earl & Kathy Cooper
Dumas, Mississippi